



Novice select Thunder photo

Team members (front, from left) are: Cameron Hoewing, Carson Dawe, Benjamin Schlosser, Reid Crawford, Liam Benoit, Nicolas Harlow. Back row: Lincoln Denning, Jason May, Jake Weatherhead, Nathaniel Barna, Dylan Corbett, Aidan Michalski, Colton Schmidt (obscured from view) Carter Spalding, Joseph Moniz. Absent from photo: Nolan Thomas, Oliver Fritsch.

Novice select Thunder holds clothing drive for Kidney Foundation

Many local-area youth hockey teams have made donations of different varieties this season and the Halton Hills novice select Thunder went above and beyond to

support the Kidney Foundation.

Team members collected 1,394 pounds of clothing that has been picked up by the foundation.

COMMUNITY

Eva Podoski (second from right) accepts a cheque from members of the Dynamic Bodies fitness studio on Guelph Street. From left are: Jenn McKeogh, Carrie Muscat, Jenn DiCarlo, Sharron Dykxhoorn. Absent from photo: Kim Cullen.



Dynamic Bodies photo

Fitness studio rallies for Food4Kids

Dynamic Bodies of Georgetown raised \$5,200 for Food4Kids during its third-annual fitness fundraiser late last month.

The studio, located at 318 Guelph St., offered free fitness classes and sold raffle tickets for prizes donated by local businesses.

The funds raised will help feed the 95 children in Halton Hills who benefit from the Food4Kids weekend food program.

Aeros deny Hornets second PWHL title

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There were no need for player introductions before the Provincial Women's Hockey League final.

For the fourth straight year, the Oakville Hornets were playing their final game of the season against the Toronto Aeros and for the second year in a row, it would decide the league championship.

Coming off a 3-1 win over Toronto a day earlier to earn their spot in the final, Oakville wasn't able to solve the league's top netminder, Natalie Thompson, who stopped all 21 shots she faced as the Aeros pulled out a 1-0 victory.

"It's a big rivalry between Oakville and Toronto," said Hornets captain Sarah Fillier, who led the team with six goals and 12 points.

"The loss stings now, but it's been amazing the last few months seeing the team grow with the adversity we faced."

After losing three players who represented Canada and the world under-18 championships to injury for more than a month, the Hornets stormed through the playoffs, going 8-1 to earn its spot in the final.

"We had great leadership," said Hornets coach Darcy Breakey. "Our seniors, they gave us so

much."

That lone defeat, a 2-1 loss to Nepean on Friday night, left the Hornets needing a win against Toronto, which had lost only three times in the 38-game regular season, in order to continue the defence of its PWHL championship.

Isabelle Hardy and Kayla Fillier staked Oakville to a 2-0 lead in the must-win game but Toronto cut the lead to one before the end of the second.

Maddy McArthur made 12 of her 19 saves in the third period to hold Toronto at bay and Catherine Trevors sealed the win with an empty-net goal.

In the final, it was Toronto striking first with a power-play goal in the opening minute of the second. The Hornets had trouble generating chances the rest of the period but applied pressure in the third.

Lexie Adzija had the best opportunity with a short-handed breakaway, but was turned aside by Thompson.

"The third period was our best period," said Breakey. "We gave ourselves chances, so kudos to their goalie."

McArthur was also impressive. She stopped the Aeros Claire Dalton on a penalty shot with 2:12 to play and the stop seemed to energize her team. With

McArthur on the bench for the extra attacker, the Hornets buzzed the Toronto net.

With just under a minute to play, Amy Dobson kept the Hornets' hopes alive by rushing back to strip an Aeros player of the puck and deny her a shot at the empty net.

But the Hornets would not be able to take advantage of the defensive plays to get the equalizer.

"The entire game we never stopped believing," Fillier said. We talked a lot about playing with energy and we fed off that."

"The silver medal is always the hardest, because you have to lose to get it," said Breakey. "It hurts today, but they'll start to realize a silver in this league is a huge accomplishment."

They came second in a premier league with 20 teams."

At least one local player was able to celebrate. Oakville's Karley Merkley had seven goals and 23 points in 35 games in her rookie season with the Aeros. She added seven more points in 12 playoff games.

Toronto and Oakville may not have seen the last of each other with the Ontario Women's Hockey Association championships just two weeks away.

"We're looking forward to one last battle," Breakey said.

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